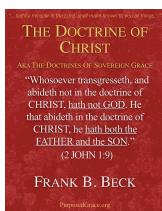


SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

May 12th, 2019

Beloved, "The LORD shall
preserve you from all evil;
HE shall preserve your soul"
(PSALM 121:7)



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WEBSITE

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ADDRESS

23033 Hughey Ave
New Caney, Texas 77357

MAILING ADDRESS

PO Box 2160 77357

PHONE

(832) 543 5333

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Happy Birthday!

Gayle Luman - May 12th

Our latest podcast is from our PASTOR

PSALM 11:3—THE FOUNDATION OF GOD STANDETH SURE

Recorded on Sunday morning, May 5th, 2019

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on



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CLOTHED IN CHRIST

"...OF HIM ARE YE IN CHRIST JESUS..." (1 CORINTHIANS 1:30)

We read in 1 Corinthians chapter 1 verse 30 *"...of Him are ye in Christ Jesus..."* What does this mean? It is the same gospel report we read in shadow and type in Genesis chapter 3 verse 21, *"...the LORD God [made] coats of skins, and clothed them."* This verse testifies of the Gospel of Christ. It testifies that salvation is of the LORD—*all* of it.

So how is it that Adam and Eve found themselves dressed in these coats of skin? God both made and clothed Adam and Eve in them .

These coats of skin represent the *"...wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption"* of Christ Jesus our Lord and Saviour. This is the glorious Gospel of our salvation; how that our Lord and Redeemer, as our substitute, the spotless Lamb of God, who knew no sin and *did no sin*, was *made* sin for us that we might be *made* the righteousness of God in Christ [2 CORINTHIANS 5:21, 1 PETER 2:22].

The scriptures declare that our Heavenly Father *"hath made Him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him"* (2 CORINTHIANS 5:21).

And just as surely as God clothed Adam and Eve, beloved of God *"of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption"* (1 CORINTHIANS 1:30).

So then believer, how is it that you have been made wise unto salvation? CHRIST. How is it that you have been made righteous? CHRIST. How is it that you have been sanctified? CHRIST. How is it that you have been redeemed? CHRIST.

Beloved, you have been saved by Christ, your all and in all [COLOSSIANS 3:11]. Believer, you have been justified freely, without any cause found in yourself, rather the reason why you are saved is only found in the sovereign pleasure of God, who according to His grace purposed to save us in Christ Jesus, before the foundation of the world [2 TIMOTHY 1:9].

You see, the reason why Adam and Eve were found clothed in these coats of skin, is the same reason why you who believe on Christ are found clothed in Him! Beloved, salvation is God providing for you in Christ, not you providing for yourself. Salvation is God covering you in Christ, not you covering yourself.

If you are in Christ, saved by His blessed person and finished saving work, you are found in Him according to the good pleasure of our Heavenly Father's will—and not by your will!

He who provides theses garments of salvation is the One who graciously dresses us in them, and makes them to be our very own. Beloved of God, of Him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us *wisdom*, and *righteousness*, and *sanctification*, and *redemption*: That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord. Salvation is (from its very beginning to its conclusion in glory) of the LORD [1 CORINTHIANS 1:30-31, JONAH 2:9]. AMEN!

PASTOR

THE GOD OF MY SALVATION

“...I WILL WAIT FOR THE GOD OF MY SALVATION” (MICAH 7:7)

What a blessed instruction this is, for those who, by God's undeserved grace, find themselves looking to Christ alone to save them.

Looking to Christ, God's people don't fret. Looking to Christ, God's people don't feel anxious about their salvation, rather they wait for the God of their salvation to save them. What blessed comfort and rest is found here in this portion—beloved *wait for the God of your salvation*.

My friend, God's word doesn't read “wait for God to do His part and He will wait for you to do yours and then you'll be saved!” Rather, ever so blessedly God's word commands a hopeless sinner like you, and a hopeless sinner like me to wait on Christ, the God of *our Salvation*, to be saved [EPHESIANS 1:13-14]. May *the Lord* ever *direct* (both the reader's heart and mine) *into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ* [2 THESSALONIANS 3:5].

Now, what do I mean by the term hopeless sinner? By hopeless I mean if my salvation depended on me in the slightest—I would have no hope! But blessed be the Lord! salvation is of Him. He has shown me He is a savior that *shall* save me, and not almost save me, no no, rather He shall save me to the uttermost! For *He is able also to save them to the uttermost that come unto God by Christ Jesus my Lord, seeing he ever liveth to make intercession for them* [HEBREWS 7:25], and so *I wait for the God of my salvation* to save me. Dear reader, wait, indeed, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved, by the God of my salvation [ACTS 16:31].

PASTOR

READY SALVATION

“...KEPT BY THE POWER OF GOD THROUGH FAITH UNTO SALVATION READY TO BE REVEALED IN THE LAST TIME” (1 PETER 1:5)

Beloved, do you hear what Peter wants us to rejoice in? Did the Holy Spirit have Peter write “salvation that is getting ready” or a “salvation almost done”? No! Peter would have God’s people to know their salvation is *ready*! Now, when something is ready it’s D-O-N-E—done!

The salvation that our Lord Jesus has accomplished for His people is ready, it’s done! A full, complete, and ever present salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time. What a Saviour to rejoice and rest in is Christ Jesus our Lord! No wonder Peter describes God’s people as those who “*greatly rejoice*”!

Beloved, we rejoice in God’s “*abundant mercy*” in Christ. We rejoice in His precious redeeming blood through which we have a full and complete pardon of sin, and His perfect righteousness which makes us accepted in the beloved Son of God.

God’s people rejoice in God’s “*abundant mercy*” in Christ. All that we have in Christ is incorruptible. Beloved, if God gave it to you—no one, nothing, no trial, no pain, not even the grave—can take it away.

Beloved, *greatly rejoice*! Everything God has given us in Christ: a full and complete pardon of sin through His precious blood, and His perfect righteousness—once given is never taken away. Dear reader, if our gracious God should give you faith to wait, trust, and believe on Christ—no one, nothing, no trial, no pain, not even the grave can take it from you (EPH 2:8, JOHN 10:27).

Peter wants us to know this beloved: we “*are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation*” and ever so blessedly Peter adds that this salvation is *ready*!—“*ready to be revealed in the last time.*” AMEN! PASTOR

THE LORD IS THY KEEPER

...*THE LORD IS THY KEEPER* ... (PSALM 121:5)

[Beloved,] Sweet and precious indeed to all His people is this assurance! *The Lord is thy keeper!* ...It is [our God as a covenant-God] which keeps [His people] in the faith; keeps them in the hour of temptation; keeps them from the power of the enemy,—from a thousand unseen, and as many visible evils,—from finally falling, and from eternal death!—and though He hath not promised anywhere to keep His people from tribulation, or persecution, or the strife and slander of tongues,—from sickness, or sorrow or the like,—yet He hath promised, that “*no weapon formed against them shall prosper,—no temptation shall take them, from which he will not make a way for them to escape. He will bruise Satan under their feet shortly*” [ISAIAH 54:17, 1 CORINTHIANS 10:13, ROMANS 16:20]. Oh, the blessed privilege of those who have the Lord for their keeper! [AMEN!].

[PASTOR] ROBERT HAWKER